Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Russell Bacon was born on October 18, 1903, in Leon, Iowa. At the age of four, Russell moved to a farm near Northville, South Dakota, where he lived with his parents, one brother, one sister, three stepbrothers, and one stepsister; and,

Whereas, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, and we celebrate the birthdays of those we love as we recognize the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and the small daily pleasures life offers; and,

Whereas, Russell married Margaret Berlien Johnson on August 26, 1925, and to this union three sons were born, Dean, Donald, and Jim, who went on to procreate eight grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, and five great-great-grandchildren; and,

Whereas, Russell and Margaret lived on the farm until 1993, when they moved to Parkside Retirement Community in Aberdeen, South Dakota. In 2001, they moved to a nursing home in Aberdeen, where they still reside; and,

Whereas, On August 26, 2003, Russell and Margaret celebrated their 78th wedding anniversary; and,

Whereas, Russell will observe his 100th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as his friends and relatives gather to honor him and celebrate his life and the camaraderie of the day; and it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a man who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim October 18, 2003, as

RUSSELL BACON DAY

in South Dakota, and I join all his many friends and relatives in wishing him a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-fifth Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State